

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 071645

15

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-02 AID-05 EB-07 ACDA-05 MC-02 OMB-01

(ISO) R

66622

DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA/NESA:EWSCHAEFER

APPROVED BY NEA/SSOBER

NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

----- 033880

R 290032Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO SECDEF

USMTM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 071645

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SA PFOR, DEF

SUBJECT: REPLY TO LETTER FROM PRINCE TURKI FROM DEPSECDEF

---- CLEMENTS

1. PLEASE DELIVER TEXT FOLLOWING LETTER DATED MARCH 24, 1975 FROM DEPSECDEF CLEMENTS TO PRINCE TURKI IN RESPONSE TO PRINCE'S LETTER OF NOVEMBER 1974. SIGNED LETTER WILL FOLLOW BY POUCH:

QUOTE: YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS: IN YOUR LETTER TO ME OF NOVEMBER 1974 CONCERNING THE SAUDI NAVAL EXPANSION PROGRAM YOU IDENTIFIED FOUR AREAS WHICH WARRANT OUR MUTUAL ATTENTION. ALSO, AMBASSADOR SUWWAYIL, BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR SAUDI ARABIA IN JANUARY, CONVEYED TO ME YOUR CONCERN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 071645

THAT THE SHIPS BE MADE AVAILABLE SOONER THAN CURRENTLY

SCHEDULED SO THAT NEWLY TRAINED SAUDISEAMEN AND OFFICERS WOULD BE BETTER ABLE TO MAINTAIN THEIR SKILLS. I WOULD LIKE, IN WHAT FOLLOWS, TO ADDRESS THESE POINTS SPECIFICALLY.

THE DELAY IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LANDING CRAFT CAME ABOUT BECAUSE THE BUILDER HAD ONLY LIMITED EXPERIENCE IN CONSTRUCTION OF THIS TYPE OF SHIP. WE HAVE CAREFULLY EXAMINED THE QUESTION OF THE PROCUREMENT OF THE LANDING CRAFT AND ARE CONVINCED THAT CONSTRUCTION HAS NOW REACHED THE POINT WHERE IT IS BEST TO REMAIN WITH THE PRESENT

CONTRACTOR. THE US NAVY WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO MONITOR CLOSELY THE PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION.

AS REGARDS EXPEDITING DELIVERIES OF THE MAJOR SHIPS (PGGS AND PCGS), THE DESIGN SCHEDULES CANNOT BE SHORTENED AND THE ONLY WAY THAT ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION TIME COULD BE REDUCED (PERHAPS BY THREE TO FOUR MONTHS) WOULD BE FOR MODA TO REQUEST SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT FROM A SHIPBUILDER DESIGNATED BY SAG. UNDOUBTEDLY, HOWEVER, THIS WOULD INCREASE COSTS. I SHOULD ADD THAT SEVERAL US NAVY SHIP PROGRAMS HAVE EXPERIENCED DELAYS AND COST INCREASES AND YOUR SHIPS MAY ENCOUNTER SIMILAR PROBLEMS. FOR THE USN, COST INCREASES HAVE BEEN DUE IN PART TO HIGHER COST OF LABOR AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND DELAYS HAVE RESULTED FROM STRETCH OUT OF LEADTIME FOR MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT AND LIMITED AVAILABILITY OF LABOR WITH CRITICAL SKILLS.

THE US NAVY WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SAUDI PROGRAM TO IDENTIFY RESPONSIBILITY FOR DELAYS AND TO TAKE CORRECTIVE STEPS WHEREVER POSSIBLE. OFTEN RESPONSIBILITY CANNOT BE DETERMINED UNTIL THE LEGAL PROCESSING OF THE US GOVERNMENT AND CONTRACTOR CLAIMS IS COMPLETED. THE US NAVY WILL CONTINUE TO ADMINISTER DISCIPLINE WHENEVER APPROPRIATE.

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS HAS REQUESTED A REPORT EVERY THREE MONTHS ON THE PROGRESS OF EACH SHIP, WHETHER IN PLANNING, CONTRACT LETTING OR CONSTRUCTION STAGE. QUARTERLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 071645

PRODUCTION PROGRESS CONFERENCES ARE HELD FOR EACH SHIP TYPE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND RSNF REPRESENTATIVES HAVE ATTENDED THEM AND HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE ATTENDANCE. WE HAVE PROVIDED REPORTS CONCERNING THE QUARTERLY CONFERENCES TO YOU AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. IN ADDITION, RSNF REPRESENTATIVES HAVE ATTENDED PERTINENT MEETINGS DURING DESIGN STAGES AND WE HAVE PROVIDED THEM WITH MINUTES OF THESE MEETINGS. THE MONTHLY MESSAGE

REPORT ON OVERALL PROGRAM STATUS WHICH YOU AND THE RSNF RECEIVE, HAS BEEN EXPANDED TO INCLUDE SHIP DESIGN PROGRESS AND ENSUING CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS. THESE REPORTS SHOULD PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION TO APPRAISE AND TO MONITOR THE SHIP ACQUISITIONS.

ON THE IMPORTANT SUBJECT OF TRAINING, I FULLY AGREE THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRACTICAL SCHOOLS. THE US NAVY HAS PREPARED A PLAN FOR AN ON-THE-JOB TRAINING (OJT) PROGRAM DESIGNED TO MEET THE RSNF'S REQUIREMENTS. THE PROGRAM CONSISTS OF PRACTICAL TRAINING ABOARD PATROL GUNBOATS AND OTHER TYPES OF US SHIPS WHICH

ARE THE SAME OR SIMILAR TO THOSE BEING ACQUIRED BY THE SAUDI NAVY, TRAINING AT US NAVY SHORE FACILITIES, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, ESTABLISHMENT OF A SIMILAR PROGRAM IN SAUDI ARABIA. DETAILS OF THE PLAN ARE BEING COMMUNICATED BY OUR MILITARY TRAINING MISSION TO THE RSNF FOR ITS CONSIDERATION.

YOU ASKED THAT TECHNICAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION BE GIVEN TO THE SAUDI NAVY ENLISTED MEN AT THE SAN DIEGO TRAINING CENTER INSTEAD OF RETURNING THEM TO THE LACKLAND, TEXAS BASE FOR THAT PURPOSE. REGRETTABLY, THE SAN DIEGO AREA DOES NOT HAVE THE ADDITIONAL BARRACKS OR CLASSROOM SPACE NEEDED. CIVILIAN COMMERCIAL SPACE COULD BE RENTED, BUT THIS ALTERNATIVE HAS BEEN REJECTED BY RSNF. ADDITIONALLY, SINCE TECHNICAL ENGLISH TRAINING IS PROVIDED FOR ONLY SEVEN WEEKS OUT OF EVERY 16, ALL INSTRUCTOR PERSONNEL FROM THE LACKLAND BASE WOULD HAVE TO BE ASSIGNED ON A TEMPORARY BASIS FOR EACH SEVEN-WEEK PERIOD. IT IS THE PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT OF THE DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LANGUAGE TRAINING, THAT A TECHNICAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 071645

CAL ENGLISH PROGRAM IN SAN DIEGO COULD NOT EQUAL THE QUALITY OF THE SAME PROGRAM AT LACKLAND. THE SAN DIEGO PROGRAM WOULD LACK THE TOTAL PROFESSIONAL AND SUPPORTIVE RESOURCES WHICH ARE INTEGRAL ELEMENTS OF THE ESTABLISHED DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE TRAINING PROGRAM. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENT SHOULD BE CONTINUED AS THE BEST UTILIZATION OF RESOURCES, MANPOWER, AND FUNDING.

AS REGARDS THE ADMISSION OF SAUDI NAVY CANDIDATES TO THE US NAVAL ACADEMY, THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING BROAD LEGISLATION TO PROPOSE TO CONGRESS WHICH WOULD FACILITATE THE ENTRY OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF FOREIGN NATIONALS TO THE SERVICE ACADEMIES.

WITH REGARD TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PROGRAM YOU EXPRESSED

THE HOPE THAT THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS AND THE DEDICATED MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF (OP-63C) WOULD BE GIVEN THE NECESSARY POWER TO MANAGE, CONTROL AND SUPERVISE THE WHOLE OPERATING STAFF OF THE SAUDI NAVY PROJECT. THIS, IN FACT, HAS BEEN DONE WITH THE SHIP ACQUISITION RESPONSIBILITY DELEGATED TO A DEDICATED PROJECT MANAGER WITHIN THE NAVAL MATERIAL COMMAND. FROM A MANAGEMENT STANDPOINT, THE CONSTRUCTION OF RSNF SHIPS SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN THE SAME TIME-PROVEN MANNER IN WHICH USNAVY SHIPS ARE BUILT. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IT, THE PHYSICAL MERGER OF ALL OFFICES CONCERNED WITH THE ACQUISITION OF SHIPS INTO ONE OFFICE AS PART OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS IS NOT PRACTICAL AND CANNOT BE DONE WITHOUT HARM TO THE RSNF SHIPBUILDING PROGRAM.

IN YOUR LETTER YOU ALSO EMPHASIZED THE INTEREST OF THE RSNF IN PARTICIPATING IN AUDITING THE ACCOUNTS AND RECONCILING THEM WITH THE BASIC INVOICES WHICH ARE SUBMITTED TO THE US NAVY THROUGH THE US NAVY INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CONTROL OFFICE (NAVILCO). SPECIFICALLY, YOU REFERRED TO THE RSNF REQUEST FOR TRUE COPIES OF BILLS, INVOICES AND RECEIPTS IN ORDER TO AUDIT THE ACCOUNTS OF SERVICES PERFORMED FOR THE RSNF. THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACCOUNTING SYSTEM IS COMPUTERIZED AND RELIES ON MANY LEVELS OF ACCOUNTING AT ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND DOES NOT PROVIDE THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 071645

FOR ALL EXPENDITURES SINCE COMPUTER RECORDS ARE UTILIZED TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE. CONSEQUENTLY, A MAJOR PROBLEM IN PROVIDING THE BASIC SOURCE DOCUMENTS WHICH YOU HAVE REQUESTED RELATES TO THE CONCEPT OF THE NAVILCO SYSTEM WHICH IS BASED ON THE USE OF COMPUTERS. THESE COMPUTERS, OF COURSE, HAVE PROVEN TO BE INVALUABLE IN HANDLING THE MASS OF ACCOUNTING AND FISCAL DATA. THE COMPUTERS ALSO ACHIEVE LARGE COSTS SAVINGS IN THE ACCOUNTING PROCESS WHICH IN TURN ARE PASSED ON TO FMS CUSTOMERS. I SHOULD NOTE HERE THAT ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING TO RSNF FROM THE PROJECT MANAGER LEVEL BEGAN IN NOVEMBER 1974-

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS, THIS LETTER AND THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH I HAVE ASKED BE SENT TO RSNF THROUGH THE US MILITARY TRAINING MISSION, IS INTENDED TO ADDRESS THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN YOUR NOVEMBER LETTER TO ME AND TRANSMITTED TO ME ORALLY BY AMBASSADOR SUWWAYIL. YOU MAY BE ASSURED THAT MY KEEN INTEREST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SAUDI NAVY REFLECTS THAT OF MY GOVERNMENT.

SINCERELY, W. P. CLEMENTS, JR. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MILITARY PLANS, MILITARY SALES, NAVAL SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE071645
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EWSCHAEFER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750110-0498
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975034/aaaaadcj.tel
Line Count: 222
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPLY TO LETTER FROM PRINCE TURKI FROM DEPSECDEF ---- CLEMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, SA, US, (CLEMENTS, WILLIAM P JR)
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006